

## **Sermons of Walter Stafford Swetnam, PhD** **(1900 – 2000)**

### Minibiography

Walter Stafford Swetnam, PhD, was born in Blaine, Kentucky on 22 October 1900. He was a life-long Presbyterian, and served the Presbyterian Church (US) for many years. He was an educational missionary to Brazil from 1935 to 1949, afterwards serving as a Presbyterian minister in churches in Amite / Arcola, Louisiana, Citronelle, Alabama; and Rock Island, Tennessee. He also served in numerous small churches in Florida, Mississippi and Alabama in the late 1920s and early 1930s. He earned his BA from the University of Alabama, and his BD from Columbia Theological Seminary (Columbia, SC), his ThM from Auburn Theological Seminary (Auburn, NY), and his PhD from Hartford Theological Seminary (Hartford, CT, 1930).

### About this collection of sermons

Walter Stafford Swetnam always preferred to write his sermons on the backs of used envelopes! These sermons presented here represent only a small number of the many sermons he delivered in his lifetime. They are presented in no particular order, most date from 1949 to the mid 1970s.

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"I will establish my covenant." - Gen. 17:19  
Int. - Genesis - the story really begins with Abraham. Isa. 51:1 took fr. wh. hewed I God's Call to Abraham

1. Go out, to where I saw you - Heb. "Not knowing whether he went"
2. I will make of you a people
3. Years of wandering to find WHERE, waiting to find WHEN, probing to find HOW
4. God made known to him, in a dream (of ch. 15) THIS is the place, the time begins NOW, and I am the HOW.

5. The Covenant was the relationship then established. I will be their God, ... people

II God Made the Covenant

1. C. Cat. "Agreement bet. two or more" - but God made all the terms - man only accept
2. To you, and your children... generations
3. God demands righteousness of all men, bec. he is holy; but to his people offers.

III A Covenant of Grace

1. Walk before me and be blameless. Who can? Abraham?

2. Abraham believed... righteousness. He accepted God, or God's terms
3. God offered, not only a demand, but a possibility of R., particip. in holiness, bc
4. This Cov. went thro many forms, finally reaching complete form in X and the church

IV The Sign of the covenant

1. Circ. symbol of holiness, not reality
2. To reject the sign is to reject Cov.
3. Baptism in Xian church the sign

Con. The Covenant is still in effect. In it, God offers us life, by his grace. Apart from it, we are already dead.

THE LIVING WORD IN THE LIFE OF TODAY  
"THE WORD OF GOD IS QUICK AND POWERFUL, SHARPER THAN A TWO EDGED SWORD."  
LIVING AND ACTIVE RSV --HEB. 4:12

INT. - ZEDEKIAH, MANY WORD FROM LORD? THE WORD IS MORE THAN WORDS

1. "THEY HAVE MOSES AND THE PROPHETS, LET THEM HEAR THEM" - THE WORDS, THE PHARISEE KNEW BY HEART, BUT THE WORD HE MISSED
2. "WITNESS AND INSTRUMENT OF REVELATION" A SWORD IS AN INSTRUMENT.
3. "BEYOND THE SACRED PAGE, I SEEK THEE..."

II THE WORD WAS MADE FLESH

1. THE WORD, THE REVELATION, THE VERY BEING OF GOD, FROM ALL ETERNITY
2. BECAME FLESH, BECAME MAN -- HE IS NOT STILL FLESH, (WE SUPPOSE) BUT HE IS STILL MAN, "GOD AND MAN, TWO DISTINCT NATURES IN ONE PERSON, FOREVER."
3. "WHERE TWO OR THREE... I WILL BE PRESENT" - IN BODYLY PRESENCE? NO, SURELY IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.

III THE SPIRIT SPEAKING THRO THE SCRIPTURE

1. THE WORDS OF SS MAY BE, OFTEN ARE, PERVERTED BY IGNORANCE OR WILLFULNESS OF MAN, TO RESULTS ERRONEOUS, RIDICULOUS, OR EVEN BLASPHEMOUS.
2. CONF. FAITH, I, X "HOLY SPIRIT SPEAKING IN THE SCRIPTURES"
3. AS OUR UNDERSTANDING OF SCRIPTURE DEEPEN THRO ALL STUDY OF IT, THE SPIRIT SPEAKS MORE PLAINLY, THE LIVING WORD COMES THRO FOR THE LIFE OF TODAY

"Even so send I you." - John 20:21  
Int. - "You're not talkin' to me!"  
The Great Commission

1. "Go, Give, Pray"
2. "A little go a long way" -- 5% of reg.
3. "Lord, bless the missionaries, Amen"
4. And GO? -- that's strictly for the bird

-- you're not talkin' to me!  
II Distress the Comfortable

1. Comfortable church - "We should do much about missions, we've got to build our ch. (OR air-condition, or... or...) - Presbyter: "We've got to take care of our own work"
2. Comfortable missionary - "Home comfort left behind", yes, some, but five in command, American style houses, salary far above what nationals receive - "They're getting enough! If you pay them more, they think they're just as good as we are." -- "Don't let a Brazilian sleep on my bed."
3. Comfortable homes - Is comfort the most important thing? "Home made missionaries"
4. Comfortable Xians - "Ave of thy sons, No, I want MY son to be a big business man

My daughter social success, marry rich man Don't disturb me, with talk about mission! -- You're not talkin' to me!  
III But He Is Talking to Us

1. Even so send I you - HW was Jesus sent to the cross? by the compelling force of the Father's love.
2. As the Father has loved me... I lov. Y
3. ... send me... even so send I you

3. Can we accept the love of X, say, "How nice! Jesus loves me, this I know" and not share his concern for world? If you can't... can you involve yself in it, get

## SEEING OURSELVES IN PERSPECTIVE

"...I BID EVERY ONE...NOT TO THINK OF HIMSELF MORE HIGHLY...SOBER JUDGMENT...MEASURE OF FAITH!"  
--ROM. 12:3

INT. - "MERCIES OF GOD, HALL MEN TO DISOBEY MERCY ON ALL" INCLUDING OURSELVES

I MYSTERY OF IDENTITY

1. ONLY ONE ME! TO EACH ONE, SELF IS THE CENTER OF THE UNIVERSE - SELF PRESERV. 1ST LAW
2. SIN IS ESSENTIALLY SELFISHNESS, EXALTATION OF SELF AGAINST GOD

3. BUT IF WE ACKNOWLEDGE GOD, X AS LORD, HOW CAN WE FEEL ABOUT OURSELVES?

II THINK WITH SOBER JUDGMENT

1. DANGER OF PRIDE - ALL THRO SS, "HUMBLY W/ GOD", "LIFT NOT UP YOUR HORN", "GOD RESISTS PROUD, GRACE TO LOWLY" - MED. THEOLOGY FIRST OF SEVEN DEADLY SINS - "NOT AS OTHER MEN ARE"
2. YET NEITHER SHOULD WE BE UNMINDFUL OF OUR OWN VALUE:

IF WE HAVE BEEN HONEST, LAW ABIDING, TRUTHFUL, DILIGENT, TEMPERATE, KIND, NO USE DENYING

IF IN CHURCH WE HAVE ACCEPTED RESP., DONE OUR BEST TO BE FAITHFUL, DON'T BOAST, BUT NEED NOT PRETEND WE HAVEN'T

IF WE HAVE STUDIED, ATTAINED SOME COMPETENCE IN WORD, CAN SAY W/ CONVICTION, HERE I STAND!"

GOD HAS REVEALED...LUTHER, "HERE I STAND!"

PAUL, "NO WHIT BEHIND CHIEFEST APOSTLES...."

M. BUT NOT COCKSURE - CROMWELL....."MAY BE WRONG"

III BY FAITH WE SEE OURSELVES IN PERSPECTIVE

1. TO SEE OURSELVES AS PART OF BODY - NO TWO PARTS ALIKE OR EQUAL, BUT ALL PART OF BODY
2. TO SEE RESP. THAT RESTS ON US, ACT ON IT
3. THIS FAITH NOT OUR ACHIEVEMENT, GOD'S GIFT
4. TO SEE OURSELVES AND ALL OTHERS OBJECTS OF GOD'S MERCY, KNOW THAT WHATEVER WE ARE, OR KNOW, OR DO, OR HAVE, OR MAY BECOME, EVEN IF MUCH OF IT COMES THRO OUR EFFORTS, IS STILL

GOD'S GIFT

## The God of Repentance

"Answer me, O Lord, that this people may know that thou art GOD, and that thou hast turned their hearts back." - I Kings 18:37

INT. 2A prophet...I told you so...prove it

I Prophets (root meaning announce, make known)

1. Anciently "seer" - so in I Sam. 9:9
2. Pagan rel. had them - Delphi, Cassandra
3. "Thus saith the Lord" (sometimes of fut. often of present duty) So Nathan, others, 4. But esp. Elijah, outstanding prophet and forerunner of many - some wrote books

II Contest with Ahab

1. Period of Ahab well documented
2. Baal (Chemosh) god of fertility, esp. of harvest, springs, and particularly of rain - worshipped by Canaanites, Phoenicians, Israel found it hard to resist - no rain
3. E's challenge, after long drought
4. Did proph. of Baal think fire would come? Did they try tricks, suspect tricks?
5. Was it lightning? from clear sky? Or had clouds already begun to gather?

6. Demonstration of fire of little worth unless followed by RAIN 4.1

III Elijah's Prayer

1. Not just for something spectacular, to CONVINCE. Did he KNOW it would happen? Did he BELIEVE? "Go, look toward west" to be sure
2. Not just for rain, badly as that was needed
3. For people to know GOD, the God of the Covenant, to whom they belonged, even if they had forsaken him

4. The God of Repentance, who had turned them back to himself, who continually turns rebellious sinners back.

## PROVIDENTIAL GUIDANCE

"WHEN HE WOULD NOT BE PERSUADED, WE CEASED AND SAID, 'THE WILL OF THE LORD BE DONE.'"

-- ACTS 21:14

INT. - DECISION TO MOVE, UPRISM IN MIND

I HOW DOES GOD CALL PEOPLE INTO SERVICE?

1. PRESBYTERY COMMITTEE - "HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU ARE A XIAN, WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU ARE CALLED TO THE MINISTRY?" *Call comes only by appointment*
2. INWARD VOICE - CAN WE HEAR IT?
3. CONVICTION OF NEED - SPEER, WHAT CONSTITUTION OF CHURCH. "WE NEED MIN, DCE, MIN"
4. VOICE OF CHURCH. (ANOTHER)

II PROVIDENTIAL GUIDANCE

1. ACTS 16:10, SHUTTING ONE DOOR, OPENING
2. NOT INFALLIBLE - SOME BY THE SPIRIT SAID, "DON'T GO, NOTHING BUT TROUBLE" THEY WERE RIGHT, THERE WOULD BE, WAS TROUBLE
3. BUT AN INWARD VOICE (ALSO BY THE SPIRIT SAID, "TROUBLE OR NOT, YOU MUST GO.")
4. SOME OF OUR DECISIONS MADE FOR US - SOME WE MUST MAKE - CE THOMASVILLE, 1921

5. IMPLEMENTING DECISION, 1922 - GEORGE

III THE WILL OF THE LORD BE DONE

1. THAT, OF COURSE, SHOULD BE STARTING PT - NOT, "IF I CAN'T HAVE MY WAY, LET GOD HAVE HIS," BUT FIND WHAT GOD'S WILL IS.
2. AND GOD'S WILL MAY BE DIFFERENT FROM WH WE HAD SUPPOSED. EXPERIENCE OF OTHERS, VOICE OF GOD TO OTHERS AS WELL AS TO ME, MAY REVEAL.
3. CERTAINTY WE CAN NEVER HAVE. WE ALWAYS WALK BY FAITH, NOT BY SIGHT. BUT CONVICTION ASSURANCE, CONFIDENT FAITH, YES.
4. "NEVER HAD ANY DOUBTS OF CALLING?" "NO".

"LUCKY MAN!" WAS HE LUCKY?



# WASTING THE OINTMENT

"WHY WAS THE OINTMENT THUS WASTED?...300 DENARI (60), GIVEN TO THE POOR."

--- MARK 14:4-5

INT. WAS THE OINTMENT WASTED? 10% MORE THAN ENOUGH, TO SAY NOTHING OF THE JAR PARALLELS IN HISTORY

1. PHIDIPPIDES, DROPPED DEAD AT END OF RUN COULD HAVE SPARED HSELF, SAME RESULT
2. GALILEO VS JOHN HUS
3. SCHWEITZER BURIED HSELF IN AFRICA
4. LEIGHTON MCCUTCHEN, LESS THAN A YEAR

II INEQUALITY OF SACRIFICE

1. LIVE COWARD BETTER THAN DEAD HERO - IS HE REALLY? HOW LONG TO LIVE, FOR WHAT?
2. "IT'S THRO THE FLOOD YE GANG THE DAY"
3. IS IT JUST DOCTORS, SOLDIERS, MISSIONARIES, WHO MUST GO ALL OUT, RISK LIFE, FACE HARSHIPS?

III SPEND AND BE SPENT

1. MEETING COMING UP - OTHERS DON'T PUT THEMSELVES OUT FOR IT, WHY SHOULD I?
2. IN THE REGULAR WORK AND WORSHIP, OTHERS DON'T MAKE SPECIAL EFFORT, WHY SHOULD I?
3. OTHERS DON'T FEEL THE CALL TO SPECIAL WORK IN CHURCH, WHY SHOULD I?
4. IF WE DO MORE, SPEND MORE, TRY HARDER THAN THE ACCEPTED STANDARD OF NOMINAL XNTY, IS IT WASTED?
5. "FOLLOW ME" MAY NOT MEAN THE SAME TO ALL XIANS, BUT IT STILL MEANS, "FOLLOW ME".

# PARTICIPATION, ACTION, REALIZATION

"I pray that your participation in the Faith may result in action, as you come to a fuller realization of everything that is good and Christlike in us." -- Philemon 6, 20th C.

Int. Letter to Philemon

1. I God moves in a mysterious way
2. A slave called "Useless"
3. Slavery itself, a cancer on human society - would blacks in US reverse history if they could?
4. Altamiro going to church - runaway slave, homesick? sought out apostle in prison
5. And was converted, and Paul decided to write this, then Col., then Philemon

# II PARTICIPATION IN THE FAITH

1. Not just an ordinary individual or family - wife mentioned, and pastor - active Xian home
2. He was already participating
3. As it had already with Ones. "Useless", "very useful", now ready to go back and face master justifiably angry
4. "Receive - not just as a slave, but a beloved brother - set him free? Maybe, maybe not

# III Realization

1. Not just awareness, but really happening
2. "Everything good, Christlike"
3. "Debts..debtors" hard indeed to forgive injustice, cruelty, loss
4. Not just for himself - "Let ME gain sthg..."v. 20

# A CHALLENGE TO COMMITMENT

"I HAVE A BAPTISM...HOW I AM CONSTRAINED TILL I BE ACCOMPLISHED!" --LUKE 12:50

INT. - JESUS ALWAYS COMING OUT WITH SUN-PRISING, SHOCKING STATEMENTS - BAPTISM?

1. URGENCY OF FULFILLMENT
2. BAPTISM REFERRED TO HIS CRUCIFIXION - ALREADY HE COULD SEE IT AS INEVITABLE
3. HE WAS NOT IN A HURRY FOR IT, BUT STILL WAS STRAINING FOR REALIZATION OF GOD'S WILL
4. JUST AS STUDENT FOR EXAMS, COACH FOR CRUCIAL GAME, PARENTS FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN
5. NOT IN A HURRY, BUT THE CHALLENGE IS THERE, IT MUST BE MET
6. A CHALLENGE TO COMMITMENT

1. FIRE IN THE EARTH - DIVISION - SWORD CHALLENGE TO FOLLOW HIM AS LORD, OBEYMENT TO HIS WILL, AT WHATEVER COST - *John 8:12-18*
2. ESP. IN TIMES OF PERSECUTION, FIRST CENT 16TH, OTHERS *Knew*
3. NO LESS SO IN OUR DAY OF "INDIFFERENTISM" CHURCH MEMBERSHIP OFTEN EQUATED WITH STATUS
4. QUO RESPECTABILITY - "COME ON, JOIN THE CHURCH YOU WANT TO BE A NICE GIRL, GO TO HEAVEN, DON'T YOU?"

(OF COURSE EVERYBODY WANTS TO GO TO HEAVEN, MOST OF US WANT TO BE RESPECTABLE. BUT IS THAT COMMITMENT TO CHRIST?)

4. DOBIAS, PRIVILEGE OF THE CHURCH IS POISON CHURCH TO BE X'S PEOPLE IN THE WORLD"
5. III RENEWING OUR SENSE OF URGENCY

1. PURPOSE OF LENT - TO REMIND US THAT WE HAVE TAKEN THIS COMMITMENT ON OURSELVES, OR IF OUR CHURCH MEMBERSHIP HAS NOT MEANT REAL COMMITMENT, BRING IT TO MEAN THIS
2. FIGURE OF STEWARD, STAYING AWAKE, WATCHING FOR HIS LORD'S NEED OF HIM
3. "IS THIS PARABLE FOR .....ALL?" "WHAT DO YOU THINK?"

STANDING ON THE PROMISES  
 "Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you." -- Luke 24:49  
 "The Lord is not slow about his promise."  
 I never a promise without a blessing

1. Basis prom. of covenant - I will be God to you... children... forever - you shall be my people - i.e., obey God's law, live in recognition of his authority  
 2. From. to Moses - I will be with you, Speak to Pharaoh

3. To Joshua - I will be with you, but you lead the people, face the enemy  
 4. To David - Never fail a son... throne - I will punish... not take my stdfst love fr. II God is not slow about his Promises  
 1. Not slow, but forbearing - often God's promise is much greater than we can conceive takes longer to work out

a. Heretish, sick, app. dying, no heir  
 b. Destr. of Jerus., captivity - Hope?  
 2. Promises of health and safety - "General not universal." ~ empty obligations to protect slaves.  
 a. Nat. laws have effects - Gravitation laws of health - "Dash thy foot" what did Jesus think of that one?

b. God's people - "General from calam. shipwreck, plane, auto wreck, missionaries may die, have died so.  
 c. Martyrs - some "escaped adge of sw., others died heroically  
 III THE Promise of God - The Holy Spirit  
 1. God in us - if God "so loved the world," can he be in us, and we be indifferent?  
 2. i.e., I am with you -- 30 yrs. \* you we ex. I accept and promise, disregr. that

What is why I made haste to rise to Tarshish; for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful... - Jonah 4:2  
 Int. Jonah, Book of Month  
 I History, or Parable?

1. Mate, "Whale story impossible, therefore Jonah false, therefore Bible false, thrfr I can do as I please"  
 2. Whale not greatest problem of history of Rep. of Nineveh even grtr  
 3. Lid-to-ladders, if you don't bel that...  
 4. Parables of Jesus not historical, true  
 II Jonah Important bco. of What It Tells about God

1. Jonah that he could escape, couldn't  
 2. God present everywhere, winds, sea, time and distance under his control 10.139  
 3. Even death no escape - (no doctrine of future life then) Overboard, At least I'm rid of that problem -- still not free  
 Cf. Psalm 139, "If I make my bed in Sheol"  
 III But What Jonah Could Not Face Was God's Mercy

1. If God had said, "Disobedient, you are rejected, die, damned, Jonah could have taken it; but, "Go" second time too much mercy - like young man who says, "I'll show 'em! I'll do everything but" finds God.  
 still loves when forgiven to forgive him  
 3. Jonah couldn't bear for God to care abt Nineveh - glad to preach destruction, but when God was merciful, couldn't take it.  
 4. We, like Jonah, want a God who rewards his friends, punishes enemies. Can we stand a God who loves his enemies?

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# HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION "ALL SCRIPTURE IS INSPIRED...PROFITABLE..."

INT. - HYMN -- ALSO, LAMP OF OUR FEET  
 -- 11 Tim. 3:16-17

I A FOUNDATION OF FAITH  
 1. FROM CHILDHOOD - HEARING WORD READ, MEMORIZING VERSES  
 2. BUT SS NOT JUST A COLLECTION OF VERSES  
 WE CAN'T TAKE ONE VERSE AND SAY, "THIS IS WHAT GOD SAYS"; IT TAKES THE WHOLE BIBLE TO BE BIBLE

3. CONCEPT OF INFALLIBILITY - "WORD OF GOD, INFALLIBLE RULE OF FAITH AND LIFE"  
 4. NOT "INFALLIBLE WORD" - FOUR GOSPEL ACCTS OF INSCRIPTION OVER CROSS ALL DIFFERENT  
 5. SS PRINCIPALLY TEACH:  
 WHAT MAN IS TO BELIEVE, WHAT MAN IS TO DO  
 II "HOLY MEN OF OLD WROTE AS MOVED BY HS"

1. HISTORY, GENEALOGY, PHILOSOPHY, SERMONS, HYMNS OF PRAISE, "MIGHTY ACTS OF GOD"  
 2. ALL OF BIBLE IS SCRIPTURE, NOT ALL EQUALLY APPL. CODE, NOR EQUALLY COMPREHENSIBLE  
 3. ALL OF IT IS ABOUT GOD, BUT SOME INDIRECTLY  
 4. ALL IS FOCUSED ON X, BUT MUCH INDIRECTLY  
 5. SOME IS POETRY, SOME PARABLE, SOME SOCIAL  
 6. ALL MUST BE UNDERSTOOD IN LIGHT OF GOD'S REDEEMING WORK IN X

III THE SPIRIT SPEAKING THRO THE WORD  
 1. "THE LETTER KILLS, SPIRIT MAKES ALIVE"

2. AS WE UNDERSTAND WHOLE BIBLE BETTER, PARTICULAR PASSAGES TAKE ON NEW MEANING --  
 3. EXX. TEACHING ON SLAVERY, POSITION OF WOMEN IN CHURCH, WAR, ECONOMICS, ETC. *Disobedient*  
 4. EQUALLY CAPABLE, DEVOUT, PRAYERFUL MEN  
 STUDY BIBLE, COME TO WIDELY DIFFERENT CONCLUSIONS

5. CERTAINTY WE CAN'T HAVE - FOUNDATION OF FAITH, LAMP TO OUR FEET, WE DO HAVE  
 CON. - LET US READ, STUDY, MEMORIZE, THE SCRIPTURE, MAKE IT EFFECTIVE FOR INSTRUCTION, REPROOF, CORRECTION..... "EQUIPPED FOR ...GOOD WORK"

for shopping at Sears

Thank you for shopping at Sears

11 COR. 3:6



"THE HOUR IS COME FOR THE SON OF MAN TO BE GLORIFIED."

--JOHN 12:23

INT. - COVER OF BULLETIN - EPIPHANY

I SHOWING X TO WORLD - GLORIFYING

1. MAGI - WHOEVER THEY WERE - SYMBOLIC OF WISE MEN
2. GOD'S PURPOSE WAS FOR ALL MANKIND - SEEN IN PROPHETS, JONAH, ISAIAH 19:24FF, "EGYPT MY PEOPLE, ASSYRIA THE WORK OF MY HANDS, ISRAEL MY HERITAGE" AND MANY OTHERS, PS. 67
3. IN INCARNATION FULLY REVEALED
4. DEMONSTRATED IN LIFE OF JESUS - CONTEMPTED AS NARROW, SELFISH NATIONALISM, ASSOCIATED W/ PHARISEANS, OUTCASTS, SAMARITANS, GREEKS (WHAT HAPPENED TO THESE? THEY SAW AND HEARD)
- II HOW DO WE GLORIFY CHRIST?

1. "SEED FALL...DIE...LIFTED UP" - TELL PPL ABOUT THAT? YES, BUT IF WE JUST STAND IN SAFE PLACE AND LET HIM DO ALL THE DYING, MIGHTY LITTLE GOOD

2. "....LOVES HIS LIFE, LOSES....SERVE ME, FOLLOW ME" WE MUST DIE TOO
3. THAT MEANS, WE MUST TAKE THIS SERIOUSLY, NOT JUST SIT BACK AND LET HIM DO IT ALL
4. WITNESS SEASON - USED TO CALL IT MISSION - MISSIONS NOT SO POPULAR TODAY - USED TO BE COMFORTABLE, PUT IN A DOLLAR, "LOOK HOW MANY SOULS WE SAVED" - MISSIONARIES LIVING IN COMFORTABLE COMPOUNDS, LORDING IT OVER NATIVES - TENSION BET NATL CHURCH AND MISSIONARIES - TENSION ON HOME FRONT TOO - MANY DISTURBED AT BOARD ACTIONS - BOARD IS OK, STAND BY IT!

III IS THAT ALL OF OUR XIAN WITNESS?

1. OUR CHURCH SUPPORTS ASSEMBLY BENEVOLENTS, WHAT ELSE CAN WE DO?
2. PEOPLE "TURNED OFF" BY THE CHURCH - WHAT CAN WE DO TO "TURN THEM ON"? "TURNED OFF" PEOPLE NEVER COME TO CHURCH, CAN WHAT WE DO IN THE CHURCH SAY ANYTHING TO THEM?
3. IF WE WORSHIPED, DID OTHER ACTIVITIES, NOT LIKE WE WERE TRYING TO GET CHEAP FIRE INS., BUT LIKE WE THOT GOD'S LOVE REALLY MATTERED, WOULD THEY FIND IT OUT?
4. WHAT CAN WE DO OUTSIDE THE CHURCH? DO WE REALLY WANT TO GLORIFY X? TO GLORIFY IN HIS LOVE? IN HIS DEATH?

### III The Appearing of the Glory

1. Second coming? Yes, but more to the then we generally think - First coming not understood, how about second?
2. If God loves WORLD, is his glory revealed by suddenly destroying? Some SS seem to say so, more affirm his LOVE
3. God's purposes mysterious to us, but our duty plain.

### GRACE AND GLORY

"For the grace of God has appeared... training us to renounce... to live... awaiting our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory..." --Titus 2:11-14

Int - Titus, a letter of authorization

1. The Grace of God has appeared
1. "Law...Moses, grace and truth...X"
2. Grace, undeserved favor of God - revealed in X, already partially revealed "I have loved you with everlasting love"
3. "For salvation of all men" Really? ALL MEN? Or only those who believe, obey "Sun shine on evil and good...unjust"
4. "Irresistible grace" -- Is not God's gr. toward ALL MEN, in some sense irresistible?
4. "Not under law, but grace -- often made excuse for irresponsible living 1:11"

II Grace appeared, training us

1. "to renounce...to live..."
2. "Legalism" a bad word in presnt Theol so much so that many say, as in NT days, "Saved by grace, do what you please"
3. Cat. etc. legalistic - yes - no statement of faith perfect
3. But it does matter how we live, ALL of SS says that plainly.

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

"When you meet together, it is not the Lord's supper that you eat. For each one... his own..." -- I Cor. 11:20-21

- Int. - Terms - Eucharist, Communion, The Lord's Supper - only place this term used in fact, this passage almost sole to be used I As Corinthians were doing, NOT the L. Sup.
1. Each...his OWN supper
2. Some humiliation, some intemperance, and a LOT of selfishness
3. Not the Lord's supper, because not communion - his prayer - "that all may be ONE"

II Communion with the Church

1. Κοινωνία, Communion, fellowship, sharing this is an act of the church, not something to be had privately - Change in standards w/ regard to com. for invalids, etc. - they receive it as part of the church - men went 20 yrs. without going to church, before he died his wife wanted him to have communion
2. Manner of observance - kneeling, sitting about table, sitting in pews - elements, quantity, use of elders, etc.
3. NOT a sacrifice, and NOT an altar - commemoration of sacrifice of X, participated in together by those who remember him in love

III THE LORD'S SUPPER

1. A supper in commemoration of him, in which we have fellowship with him
  2. I Cor. 10:16 "Cup of blessing...communion of blood...body...WE are one bread, one body"
  3. "This is my body...blood of covenant..." spiritually we participate in him, in his sacrifice, in his self-giving love, in his unity w/ the Father - this is for YOU
- his service precluded he was Christ*

AND THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE XIANS BY OUR LOVE,

"THIS IS MY COMMANDMENT, THAT YOU LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU." - JOHN 15:12

"BY THIS SHALL ALL MEN KNOW....." - JOHN 13:35

INT. - THEY'LL KNOW WE ARE XIANS.....

1 "IF YOU LOVE THOSE THAT LOVE YOU....."

1. EASY TO RAISE MONEY FOR CHDN'S HOMES - EASY TO LOVE ORPHANS - CLEAN, WHITE, WELL BEHAVED ORPHANS - BUT NOT ALL LIKE THAT - ".....NEITHER DO YOUR CHDN" - PROBLEMS, TEMPER TANTRUMS, REBELLIOUS YOUTH, ETC.

2. EASY TO LOVE AFRICANS IN AFRICA - MOVIE ABT LIVINGSTON - EASY TO PROMOTE MISSIONS THAT TEACH AFRICAN CHDN TO SING HYMNS - "I'M THRO SENDING MONEY TO KOREA!"

3. HARD TO LOVE THE NORTH KOREANS, CO. CHINES - HARD TO LOVE BLACKS THAT PRESENT MANIFESTO

4. BUT JESUS SAID, "IF YOU JUST LOVE THOSE WHO LOVE YOU.....LOVE YOUR ENEMIES" - THAT IS REALLY TOUGH, BUT LET'S FACE IT, HE SAID IT!

11 BUT SURELY WE CAN LOVE OUR FELLOW XIANS

1. PRAYER FOR XIAN UNITY - WHAT SORT OF UNITY 2. ANY UNITY NOT BASED ON MUTUAL LOVE AND TRUST WOULD BE WORTHLESS - BUT CAN WE LOVE, CAN WE TRUST, OUR FELLOW XIANS?

3. HARD TO LOVE PPL ARROGANT, KNOW IT ALL, UNWILLING TO CONCEDE ANYTHING

4. HARD TO LOVE PPL SUSPICIOUS, FEARFUL THAT SOMEBODY IS TRYING TO PUT STHC OVER

5. CCU - IS IT SUCH A TERRIBLE THING? SUPPOSE WE DO HAVE TO GIVE UP NAME PRESBYTERIAN - IS THAT SO IMPORTANT? SUPPOSE WE DO HAVE BISHOPS

6. IF WE LOVE AND TRUST ONE ANOTHER, COULDN'T LITTLE DIFFERENCES BE ADJUSTED? - AT LEAST UPU

111 LOVE ONE ANOTHER AS I HAVE LOVED YOU 1. HOW HAS HE LOVED US? JUST WHEN WE WERE

PERFECT? JUST WHEN WE WERE IN PERFECT AGREEMENT

2. GRANTED THAT WE ARE ONLY FAINTLY LIKE HIM, COULDN'T WE AT LEAST TRY TO LOVE ONE ANOTHER?

3. "BY THIS SHALL ALL MEN KNOW...."

.....ON THE DAY OF JUDGMENT MEN WILL RENDER ACCOUNT FOR EVERY CARELESS WORD THEY UTTER."

---MATT. 12:36!

INT. "THERE'S A GREAT DAY COMING"

1 THERE IS A GREAT DAY COMING

1. APOS. CREED "COME TO JUDGE QUICK & DEAD"

2. CHURCH HAS ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT - S.CAT. "BELIEVERS, BEING RAISED UP W/ X...OPENLY

ACKNOWLEDGED AND ACQUITTED IN DAY OF JMT....

3. WHAT LIKE? REAL THRONE, REAL BOOKS, REAL COURTROOM PROCEDURE? *His. rulers part 4*

4. EASIER TO THINK IN THOSE TERMS WHEN MEN BELIEVED HEAVEN WAS LITERALLY "UP THERE", JUST PAST THE BLUE SKY, HELL DOWN BELOW.

BUT IF NOT THOSE TERMS, WHAT CAN WE THINK ABOUT IT? *idea: 5-Rev. 20 - We are accountable for actions*

11X AS JUDGE - THE GOD-MAN *same*

1. HE IS ONE OF OURSELVES, OUR CRT HI FIRST TO REPRESENT US BEFORE GOD, ALSO OUR JUDGE

2. WE ARE JUDGED BY CHARACTER OF X, AS POET BY SHAKESPEARE, MUSICIANS BY BEETHOVEN, ETC

3. NOT BY WHETHER OR NOT WE ARE JUST LIKE HIM (WHO IS?) BUT BY WHERE WE STAND IN REL TO HIM - LAMB'S BOOK OF LIFE - JUDGED BY

WHAT WE'VE DONE, BUT NO MATTER WHAT, UNLESS IN BOOK, NO GOOD - WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

4. MOUTH....CONF. TO SALV. - BUT "LORD, LORD...PREACHED, ...WORKS?" DEPART!!

5. PARABLE IN MATT 25, DID NOT SHARE X'S COMPASSION, NOT IN BOOK

111 EVERY IDLE WORD - *Even every idle w.*

1. LIKE TREES - FRUIT GOOD OR BAD - WORDS EXPR. OF WH WE ARE INSIDE (PSYCH MAKES PPL TALK) CURSES, VIBES, LIES, SLANDER, CHATTER

2. WHAT AN ACCOUNTING! DOES IT MEAN IF WE HAVE SAID ANY BAD WORDS WE ARE LOST? NO 3. BUT WHOLE PERSONALITY COUNTS

## EZEKIEL PREACHED REPENTANCE

"SO YOU WILL BE A SIGN TO THEM, AND THEY WILL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD." -- EZEK. 24:27

INT. - THE PROPHETS - HOSEA NEXT

1 EZEKIEL, BOOK OF THE MONTH

1. WHO AND WHEN? EZEKIEL, A PRIEST, OF THE EXILES TAKEN BY NEBUCHADREZZAR IN 606 - HIS FIRST VISION "IN 30TH YEAR" (HIS 30TH?) IN 5TH YEAR OF JECONIAH'S CAPTIVITY, 592 B.C.

2. THOSE EXILES NOURISHED FALSE HOPE OF RE-TURN THRO POLITICAL DEALING

3. SIX YEARS LATER THAT HOPE WAS GONE

4. THE BOOK - SYMBOLISM, ALLEGORY, PARABLE WHEELS, DRY BONES, RESTORED TEMPLE - SYMBOLIC ACTS - THRO IT ALL WE SEE A REAL MAN, INTENS CONSCIOUSNESS OF BEING GOD'S MESSENGER.....

11 EZEKIEL PREACHED REPENTANCE

1. "THEY WILL KNOW THAT I AM THE LORD" - TO RECOGNIZE OUR SIN, UNDER GOD'S JUDGMENT, FIRST STAGE OF REPENTANCE - S. CAT. DEFINITION

2. TURN TO GOD, WITH PURPOSE OF OBEDIENCE - DON'T BE MISLED BY DESIRE FOR CONFORMITY - 20:32 - "LET US BE LIKE THE NATIONS" NO!

3. TRUST IN GOD, NOT IN FALSE HOPES

4. AND WHEN HOPE IS GONE, TRUST HIM STILL

5. THIS IS OF THE ESSENCE OF REPENTANCE - "I'M GOING TO TRUST HIM, EVEN IF I GO TO HELL"

111 REPENTANCE AND FAITH INSEPARABLE

1. EZEKIEL PREACHED FAITH, HOPE - DRY BONES - VISION OF TEMPLE

2. ACTING ON THAT FAITH, THE PEOPLE WERE ESTABLISHED - ORIGIN OF SYNAGOGUE, MODEL FOR CHURCH

3. A GREAT BOOK - DON'T WORRY ABOUT PART HARD TO UNDERSTAND - GREAT MESSAGE, GREAT HOPE



# MEDIATOR OF A NEW COVENANT

"He is the mediator of a new Covenant, <sup>esp</sup> that ... called may receive... inheritance... death has occurred which redeems..." -- Heb. 9:15

Int. - Covenant life Curriculum - new plan of study, work and nurture in view of fact that the church is God's Covenant People

## I THE COVENANT -- ΔΑΘΗΚΗ

1. Not ΣΥΝΘΗΚΗ, agreement bet. equals, but ΔΑΘΗΚΗ, really a will
2. Bec. this is not set up on equal terms, God sets it up, offers to us, we accept or not
3. Just like a will - the legatee has nothing to say about it, only accept or not
4. A NEW COVENANT -- ΝΕΥ...

as contrasted w/ Cov. of wks., in wh. God's righteousness demands obedience (keep as contr. w/ Mosaic Law, many rules, can't in that Spirit writes law on our hearts)

## II THE MEDIATOR -- Middle Man - Μεσότης

1. Arbitrator - Athenian custom - Taft Hartley
2. Connecting link bet. God and man
3. To break down barrier bet. God and man
4. Must represent both parties - God AND man

## III THE REDEMPTION -- The Ransom - λύτρον

1. Man was in slavery, to sin, to laws unkept
2. No possible escape NEW LAW
3. Set free by death of X - bought w/ price to belong to X - Gr. usage, temple, deposit money, belong to Apollo, FREE fr. any claim

## IV MIXED FIGURES EXPRESSING GREAT TRUTH

1. Jesus PAID our ransom, his death WAS price
2. Jesus is our Mediator, arbiter
3. We are left property under a WILL, sbody has to DIE for will to take effect, Jesus DIES
4. Purpose of it all - that those chosen may RECEIVE the promised inheritance. God makes his covenant (will) not by caprice or chance, but in such a way that we CAN receive promise

# A CREDIBLE HOPE

"FOR THIS VERY HOPE I AM IMPEACHED.....WHY SHOULD IT BE INCREDIBLE TO YOU THAT GOD SHOULD RAISE DEAD MEN TO LIFE?"

--ACTS 26:17-18

INT. - RES. WAS CENTER OF APOSTOLIC PROMISE  
"I KNOW HE IS X BEC GOD RAISED HIM FR. DEAD I'VE SEEN HIM, TALKED WITH HIM." MANY SCORES THEN, MORE TODAY, BUT BEC. THEY KNEW X ROSE THEY BEL. THAT WE SHALL RISE - A CREDIBLE H. I THE LIVING GOD

1. GOD IS SPIRIT - MATERIAL VS SPIRITUAL - MATTER, SOLID, LIQ. GAS - MORE OR LESS PERCEIVED BY SENSES - BUT EVEN SOLID, REALLY MOLECULES, ATOMS, ELECTRONS, MOVING, ALIVE
2. GOD IS LIFE - VAST UNIVERSE, ALL MADE OF LIVING MATERIAL
3. LIFE AS WE (PARTIALLY) KNOW IT - PLANT, ANIMAL, SENTIENT ANIMAL, MAN, (ANGEL?), GOD
4. GOD IS LOVE, EVEN IN INANIMATE (SIE) THING IN HUMAN LIFE
5. GOD MADE MAN - "VEILED IN FLESH", TRULY MAN, NOW WE ARE GOD AND MAN, SONS OF GOD

1. A BUILDING OF GOD
1. OUR EARTHLY "TENT" WEARS OUT, OR IS DESTROYED, LIFE STILL IS, LOVE STILL IS, THO OUR SENSES CAN'T PERCEIVE
2. "NOT MADE WITH HANDS" - WAS THIS ONE? YES, IN SENSE THAT IT IS OF ELEMENTS WE CAN PERCEIVE WITH PRESENT SENSES
3. HOW CAN WE LIVE WITHOUT BODY? "WE SHALL BE LIKE HIM" - HE IS MORE ALIVE THAN ANYONE

## III A CREDIBLE HOPE - ~~the hope~~ <sup>the hope</sup>

1. IF WE BEL THAT UNIVERSE IS NOT CHANCE, BUT PURPOSE, IF WE BEL THAT GOD IS, THEN IT IS CREDIBLE THAT LIFE SHOULD GO ON
2. PEOPLE ALWAYS HAD THIS HOPE, OFTEN DIM BUT IT HAPPENED TO JESUS, WE BEL IT CAN HAPPEN TO US
3. HOW? WE DON'T KNOW, IF IT WERE EXPLAINED WE WOULDN'T UNDERSTAND
4. BUT THIS THE XIAN HOPE - NOT KNOWLEDGE NOT CERTAINTY, BUT HOPE - CREDIBLE HOPE

## FORGIVENESS

"FORGIVE US OUR DEBTS AS WE FORGIVE OUR DEBTORS."

--MATT. 6:12

INT. - ALL OF L. P. CAN ONLY REALLY BE PRAYED AS WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO FULFILLING IT; BUT ESPECIALLY THIS PETITION - DEBTS, SINCE IS GOD'S FORGIVENESS CONDITIONAL?

1. "YOUR SINS ARE FORGIVEN" NOT "IF" BUT ARE
2. JESUS' PARABLE - UTTERLY UNREASONABLE
3. BUT STILL WE FIND IT HARD TO FORGIVE - KRISTIN, ERLIND, SIMON

4. IN MOST CONTROVERSIES, RIGHT AND WRONG ON BOTH SIDES; BUT EVEN IF OPPONENT WHOLLY WRONG, REJECTS ALL OFFERS, STILL "...AS WE FORGIVE..."

1. FORGIVENESS NOT ONLY INDIVIDUAL - SOCIAL
1. PRISONS FULL OF PPL "PAYING DEBT TO SOC." SHOULD WE FREE THEM ALL? FROM ALL ACCOUNTS, WE ARE ONLY SCHOOLING THEM IN CRIME - IF WE SET THEM FREE, WOULD THEY DO BETTER?
2. COLE BLEASE - MORE HARM THAN GOOD?
3. CRIME INCREASING, DEATH PENALTY RESTORED - SHALL WE GO BACK TO 1800, HANG FOR ANY OFFENS.
4. OR WOULD FREEING PRISONERS HELP, IF SOC. STILL REJECTED THEM?
5. WHAT ABOUT AMNESTY FOR DRAFT DODGERS? SOME CO, SOME COWARDS, SOME DESERTERS - DOES IT MAKE SENSE?
6. AND WHY PUNISH CALLEY FOR DOING WHAT WHOLE NATION WAS DOING?
7. AND WHO IS TO FORGIVE?

## III DOES FORGIVENESS MAKE SENSE AT ALL?

1. PRODIGAL SON - DID ELDER BRO. MAKE SENSE? YES, BUT FATHER'S ATTITUDE MADE MORE SENSE
2. FORGIVENESS OFFERED, VS ACCEPTED
3. "VENGE. IS MINE" DOES THAT MEAN GOD DOES WH WE TELLS US NOT TO DO?
4. "UNDESIGNED ALL TO DISOB...MERCY ON ALL"
5. CAN WE ACCEPT FORGIVENESS, NOT AT LEAST OFFER IT? AND TRY TO BE LIKE GOD?



## M U S H R O O M S

"I GAVE YOU.....AND IF THIS WERE TOO LITTLE, I WOULD ADD AS MUCH MORE." -- *Jan 12/18*

INT. - MUSHROOMS NOT MENTIONED IN BIBLE, BUT WHAT THEY REPRESENT IS OLD AS HANKING I MUSHROOMS THE FITTING SYMBOL OF OUR TIME!

1. MUSHROOM CLOUD, SYMBOL OF INSECURITY  
QUOTE, RECENT ARTICLE BEG. "LIVING AS WE DO UNDER THE SHADOW OF THE MUSHROOM CLOUD....."  
MAN IS MASTER OF ALL PHYSICAL WORLD, OR....?  
2. THE SYMBOL OF SPEED, RAPID GROWTH, URBAN LIFE, POPULATION EXPLOSION

3. THE SYMBOL OF LUXURY - A CAN OF M. WITH OUR STEAK, NOT NECESSARY, BUT THE LITTLE EXTRA TOUCH, THE KISS OF LUXURY,-

OUR AGE THE AGE OF LUXURY, HOMES, ROADS, CARS, PLANES, TRIPS ABROAD, AIR COND. HOME  
11 MUSHROOMS ARE GOOD, BUT DANGEROUS

1. EASY TO GROW, EASIER STILL TO GATHER IN THE WOODS

2. BUT SOME ARE POISON

3. SO LUXURY IS A DANGER - CAMEL, NEEDLE....! TIM. 6:19 THOSE WHO DESIRE TO BE RICH....

111 GOD HAS GIVEN MUCH, READY TO GIVE MORE  
1. ACCEPT HIS GIFTS WITH GRATITUDE, AND SUBMIT TO HIM

2. ELSE WE ARE LIKE A BLIND MAN GATHERING M, OR A FOOL, OPEN EYED, SCOOPING UP ALL

3. TO DAVID, I HAVE GIVEN....WILL GIVE, WHY DO THIS EVIL?

IV *Prayer of Covenant*

1. *wow, wow - MDR!*

2. *Increasingly better & better*

3. *that's good, I'm coming too*

"WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE TRUE..... THINK ON THESE THINGS". -- PHIL. 4:8ff

INT. - TRUTH - PARABLE OF BASEBALL GAME -- REALISM -- FACING REAL FACTS  
1. WHAT IS REALISM?

1. FACING REAL FACTS ABOUT OURSELVES AND THE WORLD. NOT KIDDING OURSELVES

2. NOT LOOKING THRO ROSE COLORED GLASSE -- NOR BLACK ONES, EITHER.

3. "REALISTIC" NOVELS -- MOSTLY FILTH THERE IS FILTH, CRIME, UGLINESS, CRUELTY ETC. -- BUT THERE IS BEAUTY, KINDNESS AND GOODNESS, TOO. BEING REALISTIC IS NOT LOOKING AT JUST ONE KIND OF FACTS  
11 REALISM ABOUT THE CHURCH

1. "THE CHURCH IS FULL OF HYPOCRITES" - TRY COUNTING THEM!

2. MINISTERS - ELMER GANTY - BUD DANA

3. CHURCH - MADE UP OF IMPERFECT PEOPLE AND TORN BY SCHISM, BUT STILL A MIGHTY ARMY OF PEOPLE SEEKING TO WORSHIP AND SERVE GOD, AND LIVE BY HIS LAW  
111 SOME FACTS TO FACE

1. SPIRITUAL VALUES ARE REAL

"TH. ....UNSEEN....ETERNAL" - MATERIAL TH. CRUMBLE, PLEASURE, FAME, WEALTH VANISH; FAITH, LOYALTY, LOVE ENDURE.

2. MORAL PRECEPTS OF XIAN FAITH GIVE FOUNDATION FOR LIFE - ROCK AND SAND  
"THAT KIND ALWAYS" DOES"

3. SELFISH LIVING DOESN'T PAY OFF  
PEOPLE MAY RIDICULE UNSELFISH IDEALISM,

BUT LOOK AT THE FACTS - NAPOLEON, HITLER SPEAK, HISTORY, WHO ARE LIFE'S VICTORS?"

CON. PASTOR - "REAL LIFE - LIFE HAS PERILS AND HARDSHIPS -- BUT GOLD TOO

"LET THY WORK APPEAR UNTO THY SERVANTS". -- PS. 90:16

INT. - FUNERAL PSALMS - 23 AND 90, ONE TELLS OF TENDERNESS OF GOD'S CARE, OTHER OF MAN'S WEAKNESS AND GOD'S ETERNAL MAJESTY AND POWER.

1. SOMETIMES THE WORK OF GOD CAN BE SEEN IN OUR EXPERIENCE

1. PS. 37:25 "....YOUNG....OLD....SEED BEGGIN OFTEN SAID THAT OT CONCEPTION PUT MATERI PROSPERITY AS INFALLIBLE MARK OF GOD'S FAVOR - DAVID, "ALL I KNOW IS, I'VE SEEN

2. SO IN OUR OWN EXPERIENCE. WE SEE FLA SUCCEED, FAMILIES GROW UP IN HONOR, CAN BLESS HAND THAT GUIDED...."WORK APPEARS

3. "GLAD ALC TO DAYS AFFLICTED" 117 BUT OFTEN THE WAY IS DARK

1. "GOD MOVES IN A MYSTERICUS WAY"

2. HUMAN LIFE, BRIEF AT BEST, OFTEN CUT OFF EARLY, PLANS, HOPES OFTEN FAIL

3. SOMETIMES PAIN, SICKNESS, HARDSHIP BESET US.

4. SOMETIMES, IN SPITE OF ALL OUR EFT OUR CHLORN, SUPPLS FALL INTO SIN.

PASTOR SEES MEMBERS BECOME INDIFFERENT OR LOSE VISION, OR SLIDE BACK INTO SI

5. THEN WE SAY, "RETURN, O LORD, HOW LONG? LET IT REPENT THEE".

111 THEN WE PRAY, LET THY WORK APPEAR

1. HEB. 11:13 "THESE ALL DIED IN FAITH \*\*\*SEEN AFAR OFF....PERSUADED....EMBRACED"

2. "GOD MAKES ALL TH WORK FOR GOOD" BUT WE NEED FAITH TO MAKE IT APPEAR. *Jesus*

3. "THY WORK.... GLORY TO CHILDREN.... BEAU (DY).... WORK OF OUR HANDS"

*Our hands doing God's work - 2000*

## A CALL TO PEACE

"PEACE I LEAVE WITH YOU; MY PEACE I GIVE UNTO YOU. NOT AS THE WORLD GIVETH....."

*Peace with you? No, decision!* - JOHN 14:27

1. "THOMAS & KEMPS" - "ALL MEN DESIRE PEACE; BUT VERY FEW DESIRE THOSE THINGS THAT MAKE FOR PEACE." LUKE 19:42 - "IF YOU ONLY KNEW.....THE THINGS THAT MAKE FOR PEACE."

2. THE THINGS THAT MAKE FOR PEACE

1. HIS IT PEACE, JERU? HOW CAN THERE BE PEACE.....HARLOTRIES.....WITCHKRAFTS...21

2. CAN WE MAKE PEACE WITH AN AGGRESSOR BY APPEASEMENT? CAN WE MAKE PEACE WITH SATAN?

3. "AGREE WITH THINE ADVERSARY QUICKLY....." HOW CAN WE? BY DEMANDING OUR OWN WAY?

4. CAN THERE BE ANY PEACE WITH GOD, EXCEPT IN OBEDIENCE AND SUBMISSION TO HIS WILL?

5. IF NOT AS THE WORLD GIVETH

1. PROMISE OF PEACE IS PART OF PROMISE OF COUNSELOR (NOT JUST COMFORTER)

2. COMFORTER TOO - 11 COR. 1:37 - COMFORTS IN ALL OUR AFFLICTION - HE DOESN'T SAY,

"WHEN C. COMES YOU WON'T HAVE ANY MORE TROUBLE BUT, "I WILL COME TO YOU. GOD WILL BE WITH YOU YOU CAN STAND ANYTHING, DO ANYTHING, THAT GOD WILLS." THAT IS REALLY PEACE.

3. "BRING ALL TH. TO YOUR REMEMBRANCE - H.G. CAUSED THEM TO SAY, "WE MUST SPEAK.....SEEN AND HEARD."

4. PHIL. 4:6-7 "HAVE NO ANXIETY....(PAUL WAS IN PRISON WHEN HE WROTE IT)...PRAYER.....PEACE OF GOD, THAT PASSES UNDERSTANDING....."

5. A CALL TO REPENTANCE AND EXPECTANCY

1. REPENTANCE MEANS NOT JUST BEING SORRY FOR PAST FAILURES, BUT DOING SOMETHING ABOUT THEM

2. DO WHAT? NOT SOME NEW TECHNIQUE, BUT TAKE THE NEXT STEPS, SUPPORT PROGRAM OF CHURCH, LOVE ONE ANOTHER - FUTILE TO PRATE OF EVANGELISM WITHOUT COMMITMENT TO GOD'S WILL - PEOPLE WILL RESPOND TO GOSPEL ONLY IF THEY SEE IT IN US.

3. CALL TO REPENTANCE IS CALL TO PEACE. CALL TO OBEDIENCE IS CALL TO EVANGELISM

## BELONGING TO THE CHURCH

"SIR, GIVE ME THIS WATER, THAT I THIRST NOT, NEITHER COME HITHER TO DRAW."

-JOHN 4:15

INT. YOU CAN'T HAVE A BIRD DOG IN A CAN. IF HE'S REAL, ALIVE, YOU MAY OWN HIM, BUT IN A SENSE HE OWNS YOU, TOO.

DO WE OWN GOD, OR DOES HE OWN US?

1. THE WOMAN THAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT A PORTABLE WELL - JESUS MEANT GOD *Shalom*

2. ISA. 40:1, "BEL BOWS DOWN.....BURDENS ON WEARY BEASTS" - GODS YOU CAN CARRY AROUND, WHAT NONSENSE! YOUR GOD CARRIES YOU!

3. BUT HE OWNS YOU, TOO!

4. PEOPLE HAVE ALWAYS WANTED TO CONTROL GOD, MAKE HIM DO WHAT WE WANT - BY SACRIFICES, BY CEREMONIES, BY PRAYERS - BUT A REAL GOD, ALIVE, WE CAN'T CONTROL HIM. HE GIVES US ORDERS, WE MUST OBEY.

5. DOES THE CHURCH BELONG TO US, OR DO WE BELONG TO THE CHURCH?

1. WE SAY, "I BEL. TO CHURCH"; BUT WE REALLY THINK THE CHURCH BELONGS TO US

2. MY CHURCH, I AM MEMBER, OFFICER, I CONTRIBUTE, I DECIDE WHAT HAPPENS THERE!

3. BUT IF CHURCH IS THE BODY OF CHRIST, HE MAKES THE DECISIONS - HE IS THE HEAD, WE ARE ALL PARTS OF THE BODY, THE HEAD GIVES THE ORDERS.

4. WHAT DOES LOYALTY TO THE CHURCH MEAN?

1. PRES. CHURCH HAS CONSTITUTIONAL GOVT. SESSIONS, PRESBYTERIES, SYNODS, G. A., ALL ACC. TO CONSTITUTION, SEEK GUIDANCE OF HS, MAKE DECISIONS, STMS WRONG *Min. Ques.*

2. PPL SAY, "I DON'T APPROVE OF WHAT BLM IS DOING, I WON'T CONTRIBUTE (OR BGE, OR NOC OR ACC, ETC) OR, I DON'T LIKE WH. PASTOR, SESSION DO, I'LL STOP COMING

3. DESIRE TO DESIGNATE PLEDGE, CONTROL CHURCH

4. LOYALTY MEANS TRUSTING X TO WORK THRO THE CHURCH, TRUSTING HS TO GUIDE - STMS HE GUIDES BY LETTING US ERR, BUT TRUST HIM

"THEREFORE LET US BE GRATEFUL FOR RECEIVING A KINGDOM THAT CANNOT BE SHAKEN, AND THUS LET US OFFER TO GOD ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP WITH REVERENCE AND AWE."

-HEBREWS 12:28

INT. - THAT CANNOT BE DESTROYED BY SHAKING

1. REFORMATION SUNDAY - R. WAS A GREAT SHAKING

2. CHURCH HAD GROWN CORRUPT - WORD FORGOTTEN, SACRAMENTS PERVERTED, SUPERSTITION RAMPANT

3. WORLDLY AMBITION, GREED, VENALITY, IMMORALITY

4. BUT STILL MANY EARNEST, GODLY PEOPLE, EAGER FOR THE WORD, EAGER TO PLEASE GOD

5. IT WAS A TIME OF NEW LEARNING - RENAISSANCE - GALILEO, LEONARDO, COLUMBUS

6. AND A TIME OF CRISES AMONG NATIONS - SUL-EIMAN THE MAGNIFICENT - SPAIN RECOVERED, BUT EASTERN EUROPE THREATENED

7. IN SUCH A TIME BRAVE MEN AROSE - WYCLIFFE, HUSS, LUTHER, CALVIN, KNOX, AND MANY OTHERS

8. A TIME OF GREAT SHAKING - STILL, NOT ALL EVIL SHAKEN OUT - GRIEVOUS DIVISION, CHURCH WOULD NEVER BE THE SAME AGAIN, BUT STILL THE CHURCH, THOUGH GREATLY DIVIDED - *Sanctus refuted*

9. THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER TIMES OF SHAKING

1. TIME WHEN HEBREWS WAS WRITTEN WAS ONE

2. AND OUR OWN TIME IS NOTABLY ANOTHER

3. NATIONAL CRISES - WARS AND THREATS OF WAR

4. DICTATORSHIPS OF LEFT AND RIGHT, QUESTION WHETHER REP. GOVT. POSSIBLE WHILE BIG MONEY CONTROLS ELECTION CAMPAIGNS - *Vatican II*

5. CHURCH, LONG AN INSTRUMENT OF STATUS QUO, NOW BEGINNING TO HEAR VOICES OF WOMEN, YOUTH, MANY THINGS CHANGED, MANY PEOPLE RESISTING CHANGE, SOME WANTING TO PULL OUT, OTHERS READ TO THROW OUT BABY WITH BATH

6. WHAT CAN WE DO IN SUCH A TIME?

1. BE GRATEFUL.....CANNOT BE SHAKEN

2. ACCEPTABLE WORSHIP, REVERENCE AND AWE

*3. Active God's church, not passive.*

## FAITH, REPENTANCE AND COMMITMENT

"...THE PHARISEES AND THE LAWYERS REJECTED THE PURPOSE OF GOD FOR THEMSELVES, NOT HAVING BEEN BAPTIZED BY HIM (J. BAPTIST) - LUKE 7:30

INT - "WE HAVE THE FEARFUL ABILITY TO SAY 'NO' TO GOD" -- PROPOSED NEW CONFESSION V

1. FAITH AND UNBELIEF

1. PHARISEES AND LAWYERS REJECTED - MANY PPL TODAY REJECT XIAN FAITH

2. SOME NATIONS, SOME FORMERLY CONSIDERED XIAN, PUBLICLY REJECT IT. THEY AFFIRM:

A. THAT ONLY MATERIAL THINGS ARE IMPORTANT

B. THAT LOOKING FOR "PIE IN THE SKY" ONLY KEEPS PPL FROM FACING REALITY IN THIS WORLD

C. THAT PPL WHO PROFESS TO BEL. IN GOD DON'T CARE ABOUT IT

3. MANY WHO PROFESS XIAN FAITH REALLY BELIEVE A. THAT GOD MADE THE WORLD, BUT CARES NO MORE ABOUT IT

B. THAT GOD CARES ABOUT YOUR KIND OF PPL, "NO OTHERS"

C. THAT WE'LL GO TO HEAVEN WHEN WE DIE, NO MATTER WHAT WE DO HERE

D. THAT WHAT REALLY MATTERS IS WEALTH, POWER, SUCCESS

4. AND OF COURSE THAT IS NOT XIAN FAITH

II FAITH AND REPENTANCE *not every one has*

1. IF WE REALLY BELIEVE IN X, WE BELIEVE: A. THAT GOD CALLS PPL TO HOLY LIFE, IN OBED TO HIS LAW, REVEALED IN X

B. THAT THIS HOLY LIFE IS IMPORTANT ABOVE EVERYTHING ELSE

C. THAT WE HAVE NO HOPE FUTURE APART FROM IT

D. THAT GOD CARES ABOUT ALL PEOPLE, CALLS ALL OF THEM TO BE HIS PEOPLE

2. REPENTANCE IS TURNING FROM UNBELIEF TO FTR FROM UNCONCERN TO OBE., FR. SLFISH TO LOVE

3. IF WE REJECT THIS, WE SAY NO TO GOD

III FAITH IS REPENTANCE, IS COMMITMENT

1. SILLY TO TALK OF BELIEF APART FR. REP, CO

2. COMMITMENT, CONFESSION, BAPTISM

## MY MESSENGER

"BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER" - MAL. 3:1

INT. - "WHERE SHALL WE PUT MALACHI?"

END OF BOOK OF THE MONTH SERIES

1. THE WORD OF THE LORD TO ISRAEL BY XIAN

1. I HAVE LOVED YOU - HOSEA, OTHERS SAID IT, WE'VE HEARD IT ALL OUR LIVES. (WHO CAN'T QUOTE JOHN 3:16?)

2. BUT DISCOURAGED PEOPLE SAID, "I DON'T LOOK LIKE LOVE TO ME - TIMES SO HARD"

3. THE VERY FACT THAT NOT DESTROYED PROOF OF GOD'S ELECTING LOVE - LOOK AT ESAU

4. BUT SOME STILL SAID, "PPL WHO DISOBEY PROSPER, WHAT'S THE USE? 3:14 - GRANTED EDOM DESTROYED, LOOK AT OTHERS."

5. THEN THOSE THAT FEARED...SPOKE TOGETHER

II THE PRIEST IS MY MESSENGER

1. CHALLENGE TO PRSTS AS RESP. LDERS, AND ALL WORSHIPERS, TO TAKE WORSHIP SERIOUSLY

2. ANYTHING GOOD ENOUGH FOR WORSHIP - CF PREP OF SS LESSON WITH SCHOOL ASSIGNMENTS

3. WHAT A WEARINESS! TOO MUCH TROUBLE

4. SERIOUS RESP OF LDERS, ALL XIANS, TO BE GOD'S MESSENGERS

III I WILL SEND MY MESSENGER OF THE COVENANT

1. GOD'S PROMISE IS TO CONTINUE TO MAKE DEMANDS OF HIS PEOPLE

2. NO PROMISE IN SS OF EASE THIS SIDE OF HEAVEN, MAYBE NOT THERE

3. I WILL SEND ELIJAH... TO TURN JOHN, REPENT, JESUS, THIS IS THE ELIJAH YOU WERE WAITING FOR *Xian*

4. FINAL NOTE OF NOT ENGLISH - LAST OF PROPHETS - GRT EFFECT ON THINKING OF TIMES OF JESUS

*Rev. of book finished at 10:15*